

tragedy has just begun, and Congress must do all that is necessary to fund essential relief and recovery efforts and help those in need.

HONORING CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM REHNQUIST

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, while the Nation's attention is rightly focused on the ongoing tragedy in the South, I would also like to say a few words about the passing of a great American. After a long and extraordinary life, William Rehnquist died this past weekend. The 16th Chief Justice of the United States leaves us with an unmatched legacy of service to our Nation.

Born 80 years ago in Milwaukee, WI, William Rehnquist lived a truly remarkable life. Like many in his generation, he served in World War II and was stationed in North Africa. With the support of scholarship money from the G.I. Bill, Justice Rehnquist attended college at Stanford University. He then went on to earn his law degree from Stanford Law School. At law school, the Chief Justice began to establish his reputation as a brilliant legal thinker and an able scholar. He graduated at the top of his class, just ahead of Sandra Day O'Connor.

After clerking for Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, Rehnquist married his late wife Natalie Cornell and moved to Phoenix, AZ. There, Justice Rehnquist and Nan raised their three children—James, Janet, and Nancy—while he built a long career as one of Arizona's leading attorneys.

In 1969, Chief Justice Rehnquist became a public servant as an assistant U.S. attorney general. Two years later, he was nominated by President Nixon to the Supreme Court. After being confirmed by the Senate, he took his seat as an Associate Justice of the Court—at 47, he was the Court's youngest member. In 1986, President Reagan nominated and the Senate confirmed Justice Rehnquist as the Chief Justice of the United States.

During his 33 years on the Court, Justice Rehnquist gained respect for his sharp intellect, his strong sense of fairness, and his profound devotion to the Court and to public service.

The Chief Justice's extraordinary legal career was surpassed only by the courage that he showed in his final year of life. During that time, he battled bravely against thyroid cancer. Through radiation and chemotherapy treatments, he continued to serve on the Court and stated that he would continue to perform his duties as Chief Justice as long as his health permitted. He did just that, with the dignity and dedication that characterized his tenure on the Court.

William Rehnquist truly was first among equals. May he rest in peace.

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, today I speak in honor of Chief Justice William Rehnquist. The Chief Justice served this Nation's highest court with dis-

tingtion and honor for more than three decades, and his career in public service started years earlier. Even as he battled cancer over the past year, he continued to be an example of personal strength, dignity, and fortitude. I join my colleagues in mourning his passing and offering my prayers to his family.

The Chief Justice was a staunch defender of the Supreme Court and an active, independent judiciary. He was admired as a warm and helpful colleague, a thoughtful mentor, and an extremely effective administrator of the federal court system. The courts were well cared for under his distinguished leadership.

Justice Rehnquist also engaged directly with many of the toughest constitutional controversies of the twentieth century. Although I often disagreed with his decisions, Justice Rehnquist's opinions have been the source of important scholarship and litigation. Like the Chief Justice he followed, the late Earl Warren, Justice Rehnquist will be remembered as an important historical figure whose legacy will impact generations of Americans.

I knew the Chief Justice only at a distance. As a lawyer and a constitutional law instructor, I was required to wrestle intellectually with his ideas and arguments, and to press my students to divine his judicial instincts and motivations. My regret is that I never got to know him personally, or even to join one of his legendary walks around the Capitol or monthly poker games. I know that his warmth and humor have touched many of my colleagues, and he will be missed.

Of course, the strength of our constitutional structure—is that it is greater than any individual. Each of us plays but a small role in designing or building or repairing that structure it is greater and more important than any of us. We mourn the passing of Justice Rehnquist and now look to the future and the important work to be done.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who was a brilliant jurist, a devoted public servant, and a person who shared my love of Vermont.

Though most Americans knew Chief Justice Rehnquist for his years of service on the Supreme Court, many Vermonters knew him as a neighbor and a friend. Like most who visit our great State, Chief Justice Rehnquist fell in love with Vermont's natural beauty and rural character and purchased a home in Greensboro in 1974.

For over 30 years, Chief Justice Rehnquist escaped the humidity and stress of Washington every summer in favor of the picturesque surroundings and quiet charm of Caspian Lake. Whether it was playing cards, visiting Willey's Store, or worshipping at the Greensboro United Church of Christ, Chief Justice Rehnquist immersed himself in the community with a remarkable subtlety and modesty for a man of

his stature and prominence. The Chief Justice would also share his knowledge of history, politics, and the law with community members in a lecture that became a much-anticipated summer tradition in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

Each year, before the State of the Union, I would usually have a chance to chat with the Chief Justice about his time in Vermont. Amidst the chaos and cameras of the Capitol on such a busy night, Chief Justice Rehnquist always found time to reminisce about the summer months he spent in our State. I always enjoyed these brief discussions with such a kind and engaging man who valued life's simple pleasures so dearly.

On September 5, the Burlington Free Press, describing the reaction in Greensboro to the Chief Justice's passing, wrote:

It wasn't a dignitary that was mourned; it was a guy who liked to walk everywhere and call people by their first names (and expected them to return the favor). It was a guy who had an affinity for Hershey's Special Dark Chocolate bars and Donna Gerow's homemade pumpkin bread.

As millions of Americans mourn the loss of one of the most influential people of our time, Vermonters in Greensboro, and around Caspian Lake, mourn a good neighbor, a great friend, and a fellow Vermonter.

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST, CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to a vote on the resolution honoring the life of Chief Justice William Rehnquist, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 234), relative to the death of William H. Rehnquist, Chief Justice of the United States.

Mr. HATCH, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the resolution. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. The following Senators were necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 95, nays 0, as follows: